

assistance of the NIC. In this connection Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs has written to the Chief Justices of all the High Courts and the Chief Ministers of all the States on 26th June, 2000.

**Financial Aid to CPT for Dredging Operations**

**3202. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided in 1997 in the Cabinet that the Calcutta Port Trust will receive Rs. 200 cr. annually for dredging and increasing the draft of the river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of implementations and the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):** (a) and (b) The Cabinet in 1994 decided to reimburse 100% of the cost on items directly related to river dredging and river maintenance as well as the cost incurred on items directly related to maintenance, dredging of shipping channel leading to Haldia from the year 1992-93 onwards provided that the depreciation on capital expenditure on Haldia Channel dredging will not qualify for subsidy and to meet the expenditure "on account" payment upto 90% of the amount payable towards subsidy during previous year may be made to the Port Trust in the beginning of the following year.

(c) The decision of the Cabinet is being implemented.

**Development of Chennai Port Trust**

**3203. SHRI R. MARGABANDU:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a plan to develop Chennai Port Trust; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):** (a)